

THE MILITANT

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Mounting Support For Antiwar GI

NEW YORK — The Committee to Defend the Rights of Pfc. Howard Petrick now has more than 300 prominent sponsors. The committee was formed to defend the constitutional rights of a 21-year-old GI at Fort Hood, Texas, who has been threatened with court-martial merely for expressing antiwar and socialist views and for distributing antiwar literature.

Petrick's literature was confiscated April 1 by Military Intelligence. The Army refuses to return it because they say Petrick is under a continuing investigation. His case is now in the hands of the Pentagon.

A letter asking for support to the case was sent out in New York by critic Eric Bentley and columnist Murray Kempton. In Boston Professors Howard Zinn and Noam Chomsky signed a similar appeal.

Sponsors

Some prominent individuals who have become sponsors of the defense committee in the past few weeks include: Julian Bond, Georgia State Legislature; Jean-Pierre Vigier, Paris Secretariat of the International War Crimes Tribunal; Harvey Swados, writer; William Gibson, writer; Tom Paxton, folksinger; Robert Osborn, cartoonist; Jack Minnis, Southern Conference Education Fund; Prof. J. B. Neilands, University of California at Berkeley; Roger Pic, French film maker; Ron Dellums, Berkeley City Council member; Muriel Rukeyser, poet; Denise Levertov, poet; Mitchell Goodman, writer; Father Daniel Berrigan; Prof. Donald Hopkins, University of California at Berkeley; Prof. Maurice Zeitlin, University of Wisconsin and many others.

At Fort Hood, Howard Petrick reports that many GIs are interested in his case and support his rights. Several soldiers have written to the defense committee expressing their support, with such

comments as: "I've known Howard since I've come into the Army, and his defense against the Army's persecution is of great importance to me . . . I too have begun to talk to other GIs about their opinions of the Vietnam war. Most soldiers are against the war, but are afraid to voice their opinions for fear of being punished . . ." Some GIs request more literature on the case. "The faster the public learns of the case the stronger Howard's defense will be," was one comment.

Howard has been invited to speak for several antiwar groups in Texas. On June 23 he spoke on his case for the University of Texas Committee to End the War in Vietnam. The antiwar committee described the meeting in a press release as follows: "Before a full house, he, Howard Petrick, discussed his reasons for opposing the Vietnam war (he is not a pacifist) and the dilemma of his fellow servicemen who are forced to subdue native Vietnamese in

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New York Peace Forces in Drive To Put Vietnam Issue on Ballot

By Harry Ring

NEW YORK, July 5 — The drive to put an antiwar referendum on the municipal ballot here is underway. Organized by the Fifth Avenue Vietnam Peace Parade Committee, canvassers are now collecting the signatures on petitions needed to place the proposition on the ballot. They report an excellent response from the great majority of those approached.

The referendum would give New Yorkers the opportunity to vote in favor of "an immediate end to U.S. intervention in Vietnam and withdrawal of all United States military forces from Vietnam."

Signatures Needed

To win a place on the ballot the referendum petition must be signed by 50,000 qualified city voters. To assure meeting the legal requirement, the Parade Committee intends to get many times that number.

The committee reports an excellent response from the 147 organizations associated with it. In the first week of the drive 5,000 petition sheets have been taken for circulation by groups and individuals. The committee planned to double that number this week, and aimed at a massive signature-getting drive July 8-9. Deadline for filing petitions is Sept. 6.

An impressive feature of the first days of the drive has been the number of young people attracted to the project. At a Parade Committee planning meeting last week there were many young people present not previously involved in the committee's activity.

Indicative of the reaction among opponents of the war was the response to an ad placed in the *Village Voice* appealing for support to the project. In less than a week

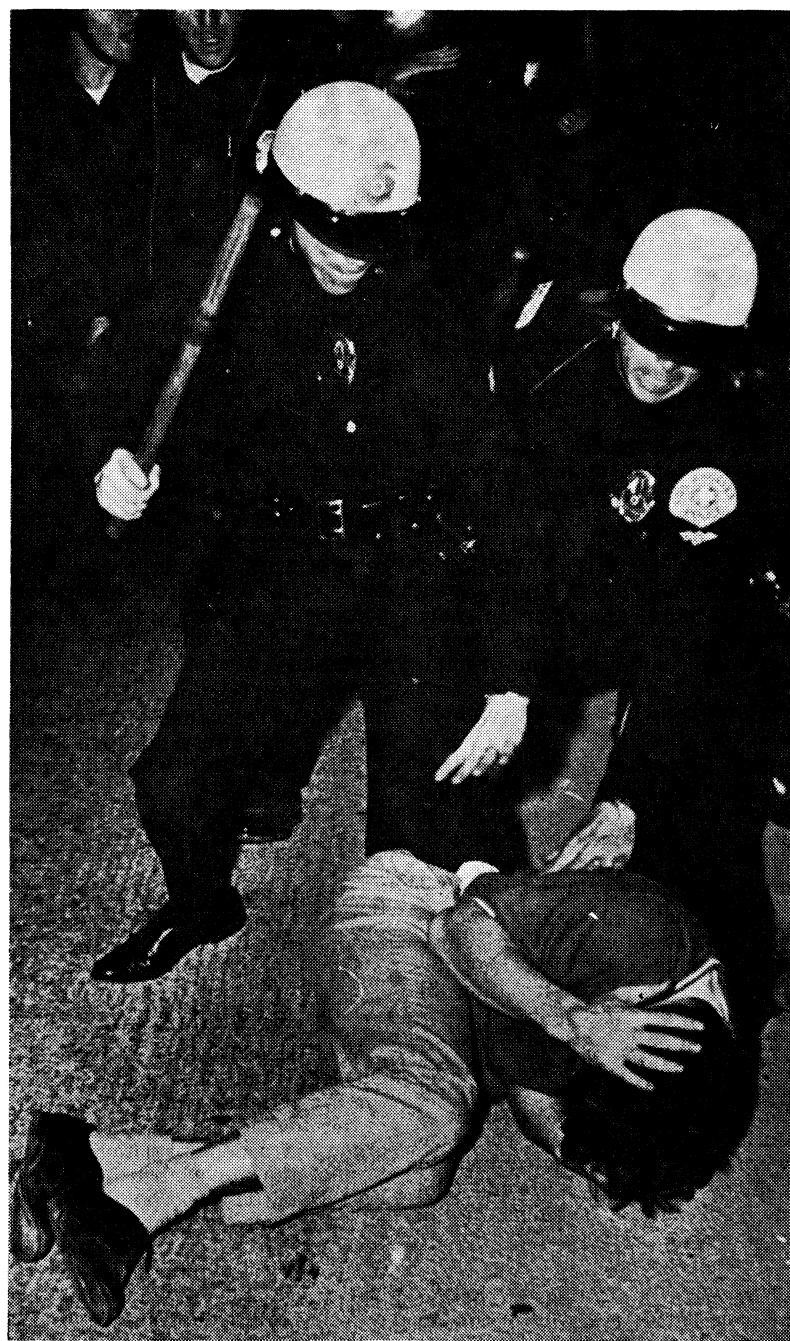


Photo by Charles Britton

DEMOCRACY USA. Los Angeles cops club antiwar demonstrator. Hundreds were injured in police assault on peaceful march.

Cop Attack On Pickets Assailed

Protest Assault on L.A. Peace Action

Demonstrators Clubbed Outside Dinner for LBJ

By Joel Britton

LOS ANGELES, July 1 — The antiwar movement here is fighting back after the brutal dispersion of its June 23 demonstration of 25,000 in front of LBJ's \$500-a-plate fund-raising dinner at the Century Plaza Hotel.

A Los Angeles police force of over 1,200 arrested 51 people and injured hundreds — 60 had to be hospitalized — in a well-planned assault on the right to peacefully assemble in protest of the government's Vietnam war policy. June 23 has become known here as "Bloody Friday" — those of us who were attacked and "dispersed" are becoming known as "Veterans of June 23."

Well over 1,000 people attended a protest meeting June 29 and heard repeated denunciations of the police, the mayor and LBJ. Several speakers emphasized unity in the face of the police attack and support to all those arrested and injured.

Mass Picket Planned

A mass picket is now being planned in front of police headquarters on Saturday, July 8. A conference open to all antiwar groups and individuals is being planned for the same weekend.

The key task of defending those arrested and injured is going ahead on several fronts. The Student Mobilization Committee, Peace Action Council, ACLU and other antiwar and civil liberties groups have gathered hundreds of signed statements attesting to police brutality. These will be used as part of the legal defense as well as to educate those who weren't on the scene on the 23rd.

Dr. Donald Kalish of UCLA and about 100 antiwar activities were present at the June 26 meeting of the City Council to present the demands of the student committee and PAC. These demands included the dropping of all charges against those arrested, full compensation for medical expenses of those injured, condemnation of Mayor

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Did Police Agents Cook Up Rights Leaders Death 'Plot'?

By Elizabeth Barnes

NEW YORK — On June 21, 16 black people were arrested in pre-dawn raids by police on allegations that they were involved in a plot to kill NAACP head Roy Wilkins and other civil rights leaders. All were charged with conspiracy to advocate criminal anarchy. Two of the 16, Herman Ferguson, assistant principal of Queens Jr. High School, and Arthur Harris, also of Queens, were charged with conspiracy to commit murder. All were charged with being members of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM).

The facts surrounding the case recall the "Statue of Liberty" case which broke over two years ago.

In the Statue of Liberty case, black "terrorists" were indicted along with a French Canadian woman for "plotting" to blow up the Statue of Liberty, the Liber-

ty Bell and the Washington Monument. Evidence for the case consisted of a small amount of dynamite brought in from Canada and the story of a police undercover agent. It was clear from the court record that the police agent had hatched the plot, organized it, and paid for it with police funds.

It is clear that undercover agents were deeply involved in the alleged plot to kill Wilkins. In an article on June 22 the *New York Post* mentions "150 police undercover agents assigned to the case." The *New York Times* says in an article on June 22 that according to Inspector Garilick undercover agents have had the Revolutionary Action Movement under surveillance for two years. The FBI estimates RAM has a total of 50 members. That would mean a three-to-one ratio of police to

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Pfc. Howard Petrick

Our Schedule For the Summer

During the months of July and August, THE MILITANT is published every other week. Our next issue will be dated July 24. Regular weekly publication will resume with the issue of Sept. 4.

THE NATIONAL PICKET LINE

Under the title "Young Rebels," the *Wall Street Journal* has published a blunt appraisal of union trends for the information of its capitalist readers. The following are excerpts from a June 21 article on the subject:

"Labor union locals are rebelling against their national parent organizations as never before . . .

"Militant younger members increasingly are pressing for local rejection of contract settlements endorsed by national officers. Some local leaders grumble about what they say is heavy-handed direction of their affairs by top officials . . .

"Labor analysts say rebellion in the ranks stems from several causes. Most often mentioned is the growing demand by younger local members for fatter paychecks instead of increased fringe benefits . . .

"Many labor observers feel this year's negotiations between the UAW and the auto industry will demonstrate the militant mood of local memberships. If immediate pay hikes aren't enough to satisfy local leaders, national UAW officials worry that a real rank-and-file revolt may develop, repeating in broader fashion the pattern of 1961 and 1964, when widespread

War Budget Accelerates Price Hikes

Consumer prices rose sharply in May for the second straight month, according to the Labor Department. The consumer price index jumped .3 percent in April and .3 percent again in May. Wholesale prices also rose sharply in the same period, particularly in certain foods.

These price rises brought the total jump in the consumer price index to 2.7 percent since May 1966. In the same period, the average weekly earnings of workers in manufacturing industries increased from \$112.05 to \$112.84 — an increase of only .7 percent.

This means that the real wages of workers, taking into account the actual purchasing power of the dollar, have declined 2 percent since May 1966.

The inflationary pressures in the economy right now are caused mainly by the escalation of the war. And there are also recessionary pressures reflecting the downturn in the business cycle. The two are not incompatible.

As long as the government keeps borrowing money and pumping it into the war industry, interest rates and prices will tend to rise. But this federal spending is not sufficient to generate a new increase in the demand for consumer goods.

That is, the federal spending is not great enough to compensate for declining real wages and declining industrial production. As long as consumer purchasing power continues to fall, it will be difficult for the economy to enter the so-called "upswing" which is supposed to happen later this year.

A tax increase would dampen the inflationary pressure on interest rates, as Johnson's advisers assert. But it would also increase the recessionary pressure, by further lowering real wages. And the ultimate direction of the economy will depend on the balance of these two forces.

This much, however, can be said: For the next period the economy cannot offer workers higher real wages and substantial job possibilities. Inflation and recession work side by side to lower real wages and eliminate jobs.

local strikes were called after contracts had been agreed on at the national level . . .

"The local-national split, however, isn't limited to pocketbook issues. Local leaders report growing disenchantment among younger men with the way seasoned union leaders are conducting union affairs. Sherwood Weissman, president of the UAW Local 122 at Twinsburg, Ohio says: 'there's more apprehension now than ever before that the international's not going into the negotiations with the necessary degree of militancy and firmness to uphold its demands . . .

"Mr. Weissman says that high officials of the UAW, including President Walter Reuther, 'act more like statesmen who want to settle every problem than like union men not afraid to strike . . .

"Some national union officials are trying to soften local resistance to their policies by increasing the amount of local participation in national affairs . . .

"But the national leaders nevertheless remain deeply worried about support among the rank and file, which some frankly admit is continuing to diminish. 'Our answers don't mean too much to them anymore,' says Eugene Glover, general vice president of the Int'l Assn. of Machinists."

The 80-day cooling-off period under a Taft-Hartley injunction in the dispute between the UAW and the Lycoming Division of Avco Corporation at Stratford, Conn., expires during the first week in July.

The government is working against time to bring the union and the company to terms, and is reported making progress. Two locals at the Stratford plant are involved. Local 1010 represents 4,800 production workers, and Local 376 represents 500 office and technical workers. No terms of the proposed contracts have been reported.

The administration is pressuring the union for a settlement before the injunction runs out because Congress is expected to adjourn on June 30 and not take up its business again until July 10. According to the *New York Times* "a failure to win agreement before the recess could leave the nation without legislative remedy for four days to a strike that the Defense Department contends cannot be tolerated for a single day because of Vietnam war needs."

The Lycoming Division of Avco manufactures one type of helicopter engine and aircraft parts used in Vietnam.

(For details on the issues involved in this dispute see the April 27 *Militant*.)

—Marvell Scholl

N.Y. Theater Benefit For Farm Workers

NEW YORK — El Teatro Campesino, the Farmworkers Theater, is scheduled to open in New York July 20. Performed by farmworkers from the fields of Delano, Calif., these are plays that were put on before audiences of California strikers.

The schedule of performances is as follows:

Thurs., July 20: Village Theater, 2nd Ave. and 6th St., seats \$1.50 to \$3, 8:45 p.m.

July 21: Labor Temple, 242 E. 14th St., 8:30 p.m., \$1.

July 22: St. Mark's Pl., 2nd Ave. and 10th St., 3 p.m., donation.

July 23: Asociación de Barceloneta, 2689 B'way (at W. 103 St.), 2 p.m.

N. Y. Welfare Workers Fight Against Lockout

By Howard Reed

NEW YORK, July 3 — The "work-in" of the welfare workers of the Social Service Employees Union has been turned by the city into a lock-out. During the last week, cops have been at the entrances of all 40 welfare centers in the city, to keep out welfare workers who have been holding educational seminars, in place of their regular work. Two union stewards were viciously beaten up by cops because they were trying to help welfare recipients meet their emergency needs.

Important sections of the labor movement responded vigorously to the city's latest assault upon labor. The National Maritime Union con-

tributed \$5,000 to the SSEU, and made their union hall available for all SSEU meetings. Joint Council 16, composed of the 169,000 Teamsters in New York, in a strongly worded telegram to Mayor Lindsay charged him with a following a "consistent course of union busting."

Local 1707 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees demanded that all disputed issues go to impartial fact-finding, and also sent a letter to all its stewards requesting that no member of the union, composed of private social agency and poverty workers, do any work normally done by SSEU members.

Harold Gibbons, an international vice-president of the Teamsters, contributed \$1,000 to the SSEU from Teamsters Joint Council 13 in Missouri.

In a related development, former City Councilman-at-Large Paul O'Dwyer announced the formation of a Committee of Concerned Citizens to End the Crisis in the Welfare Department. The committee's statement calls upon the union and the city to resolve all disputed issues by fact-finding. This statement, backing the union's position, is signed by Ossie Davis, Michael Harrington, Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton, City Councilman Theodore Weiss, and nine state senators and assemblymen.

It is clear that Mayor Lindsay is trying to bust the SSEU. Six hundred union activists have been suspended from their jobs while trying to assist clients, 35 union leaders have been arrested, and the city has consistently refused to negotiate with the union to end the work-in. Lindsay, suddenly concerned with welfare recipients, has consistently charged the union with "irresponsibility" and resisting "progressive change in the Welfare Department," while at the same time fighting vigorously against union demands such as automatic clothing grants to clients, and telephones for people on welfare.

In spite of the Welfare Department's claim that all emergencies are being met, more than 1,000 welfare recipients demonstrated outside City Hall June 30 for an immediate settlement of the crisis, and long lines outside the welfare centers at closing time testify that the city as usual has complete disregard for the situation of the clients.

Va. Demonstration Demands Freedom For Fort Hood 3

By Paula Stern

WASHINGTON, D.C., June 23 — On less than one week's notice, the Washington Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam organized a demonstration in support of the appeal hearing of the Fort Hood Three. The three anti-war GIs were court-martialed and sentenced to prison terms last September for their opposition to being sent to Vietnam; they are now appealing that conviction.

The Mobilization Committee encountered many difficulties in organizing the demonstration. The case was heard in Bailey's Crossroads, Va., a town about 10 miles from Washington. It was scheduled for Friday, an inconvenient day for working people. The committee had only one week's notice of the date and place of the hearing.

In spite of everything, nearly 40 people participated in the demonstration in Bailey's Crossroads. About 20 found seats in the courtroom while an equal number maintained a picket line outside despite the blistering heat.

Some of the slogans on the picket signs were: "Free the Fort Hood Three"; "Free Speech for GIs"; "First Amendment Rights for GIs"; "Defend GIs Rights — Hands Off Pfc. Petrick"; and "Defend GIs Rights — Free Capt. Levy." The caps of the Veterans for Peace in Vietnam were prominent both inside and outside the courtroom.

... Support for Antiwar GI

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revolt against the corrupt and oppressive Saigon regime . . . Although the audience was somewhat disconcerted by the presence of Austin detectives, two FBI agents and an army officer in civilian clothes, spunky Petrick could not be intimidated. He wore a freshly starched uniform with shiny brass and shoes, his Good Conduct Ribbon and training proficiency badges . . .

On the same weekend he spoke to 50-100 people at a "peace picnic" held in Austin. At this picnic he ran into several other Fort Hood GIs who were against the war.

In Madison, Wisc., the local Howard Petrick defense committee has been handing out leaflets on the case to thousands of GIs who stop at the University of Wisconsin cafeterias on their way to maneuvers. A person from the committee wrote in, "The reception to the leaflets was friendly. Comments went like, 'Keep up the good work,' or 'Pass them out

500 Pickets Greet Gen. Taylor in S.F.

SAN FRANCISCO — Five hundred people picketed at the Hilton Hotel here June 26 protesting a local pro-war speech by Maxwell Taylor. Taylor, who is now a civilian advisor to LBJ, is the former U.S. ambassador to Saigon and the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He spoke at an American Association of Librarians meeting on "U.S. Policy in Southeast Asia."

The militant demonstration was called by the Berkeley and San Francisco chapters of the Student Mobilization Committee, and the Berkeley Campus Mobilization Committee. The participating organizations have called for a mass rally at the civic center in San Francisco Aug. 5 to help put anti-war referendums on the ballot in November in both San Francisco and Berkeley. The Campus Mobilization office at 2001 Milvia St., Berkeley will be open every day this summer.

... Death 'Plot'

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members.

Both the Statue of Liberty case and the RAM case have received sensational press coverage designed to arouse the white community. On June 22, the *Post* covered its front page with enormous headlines reading, "THE MURDER TIMETABLE, Say Leaders Were to Die This Weekend." No retraction was printed when it was discovered afterward that even the District Attorney's office denied that there was any such "timetable."

The New York Civil Liberties Union has accused the police and the District Attorney of conducting a "trial by publicity." They claim that, "Evidence that may or may not be admissible in court has been freely reported in an apparent effort to create an ineradicable impression of guilt in the minds of potential jurors."

Diversion

The hysteria whipped up by the press is calculated to draw attention away from the murders carried out by police and white racists against black people, and to reinforce the image of black radicals as dangerous "terrorists." The June 21 *Post* carried a picture of Stokely Carmichael under the headline, "Nab 16 Negroes In Plot to Kill Wilkins." The text of the article identified Carmichael as "affording assistance and guidance" to Max Stanford, the alleged ringleader of the plot.

Max Stanford, who was arrested in Philadelphia, is being held on the exorbitant bail of \$100,000 and faces extradition procedures on July 21. Fourteen of the defendants were arraigned June 23 in a courtroom filled with predominantly black spectators. They were held on a total bail of \$207,500. All the defendants are pleading not guilty.

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WHAT L.A. COPS REALLY DID

Interview with Student Leader

By Les Evans

Sean Rooney, a leader of the Los Angeles Student Mobilization Committee, gave an interview to *The Militant* in New York June 30. The Student Mobilization Committee was co-organizer with the Peace Action Council of the massive demonstration against President Johnson June 23 in Los Angeles that was savagely broken up by police.

Rooney said that 1,200 police, representing 25 percent of the total police force of Los Angeles, were used to disperse the march of 25,000.

"Mayor Yorty," he said, "claims the action was based on intelligence reports that the march was going to rush the Century Plaza Hotel where Johnson was attending a dinner.

"There was no move on the part of anyone to rush the hotel; no one had advocated such a move either in organizing the march or in public announcements. The source of the 'intelligence' indicates that the whole move on the part of police was a provocation. The police announced that their information came from two police agents sent in to spy on the Student Mobilization Committee.

"One of these police agents, a girl named Sharon Stewart, claimed she attended a 'secret

meeting' where plans were made to provoke a riot and rush the hotel. This is an out-and-out lie. We never had any secret meeting. We have no formal membership and all our meetings were open."

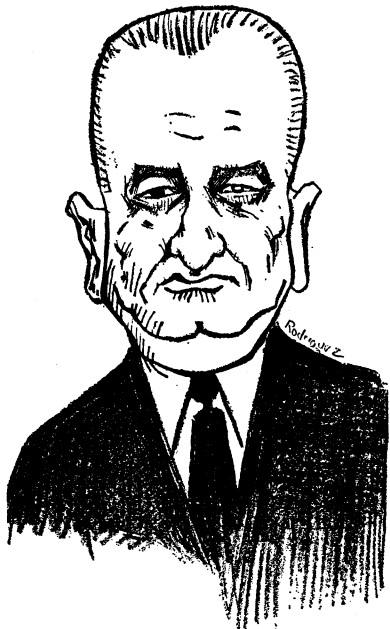
Sharon Stewart has reportedly claimed that the supposed secret meeting was attended by "a Chinese boy and someone who

sounded Russian."

In relation to the conduct of the police, Rooney pointed out that while the 25,000-strong march was scheduled to circle the block opposite the Century Plaza Hotel, police were stationed only on the approaching side. "There was not even a traffic cop on the other corners, indicating that the police may have planned from the outset to break up the march and never expected it to reach the block beyond the hotel.

"The immediate pretext for attacking the peaceful demonstration," he said, "was a sit-in by a few people not connected with the organizers of the march in the street in front of the hotel, blocking the line of march. The police refused to allow the marchers to walk around the sit-in, and then cynically ordered the march to disperse for standing still. The line was three-quarters of a mile long, but the police made the announcement only at the head of the line and then attacked with billy clubs. I was a monitor captain in the front line and I was clubbed in the stomach."

Rooney said several hundred dispositions have been taken from victims of the police attack and will form the basis of planned legal action against individual cops, the police department and the city government.



Johnson

... Assault on L.A. Pickets Protested

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Yorty, Police Chief Reddin and other city officials responsible for the police attack, and "that the City of Los Angeles respect the Constitution of the United States, including the Bill of Rights, specifically that section which allows for peaceful assembly."

This city council meeting was adjourned in confusion when the sizeable contingent of antiwar forces hissed, booed or cried out against the 10-5 decision not even to hear their spokesman.

The city council met later and by the same vote commended Chief Reddin.

The ultra-rightists in the American Legion have been encouraged by the police attack and the support Reddin and his boys in blue have gotten from the city council, mayor and high state officials. The Legion has asked for an investigation of the march and its organizers by HUAC.

Another ominous development is the rumor that the police will ask the County Grand Jury for felonious riot-conspiracy indictments against several of the "left wing" leaders of the march. To top it all off, Chief Reddin has called for a more restrictive parade ordinance.

The demonstration itself on July 23, reported in the press at 10,000 and more accurately estimated by its sponsors at 25,000, was by far the largest antiwar action in Southern California history. It was three to five times larger than any previous demonstration.

Dozens of groups supported the action. The Student Mobilization Committee and the Peace Action Council were the primary coordinating bodies which planned and publicized it.

The day's activities started at noon with a "Peace-In" organized by the Student Mobilization Committee at Cheviot Hills Park. Rock bands, folk singing, speakers and literature tables were the main attractions.

By 6 p.m., when the rally was to begin, thousands of people were in the park — the student youth had been joined by their parents and other adults getting off work.

The rally featured H. Rap Brown of SNCC, Dr. Benjamin Spock of SANE and Muhammad Ali of the Nation of Islam. Folksinger Barbara Dane performed.

Ali was the main attraction. His surprise appearance came shortly after he was sentenced to five years in jail for refusing to serve in the Army. He said he was very much encouraged by the thousands of young people in the park who agreed with him on the war in Vietnam. He told a newsman that he would be seeking campus speaking engagements.

He pointed out during his short talk right before the march began that if there was to be any violence on the march it would come from the "other side" — supporters of the war or the police.

As stated in the restrictive police permit, the march was to move off toward the hotel a mile away at 7:30. At 7:10 a group of students attempted to begin the march behind a small truck. A few cops moved in to stop the truck. One of them had his foot run over.

The cops then proceeded to smash the windows and beat the driver and passengers. Anger and militancy replaced the "Peace-In" mood of love and "flower power" for those in the front section of the march who witnessed this unwarranted police attack.

But for most marchers, unaware of the clash at the front, the mood was more festive and there was only occasional chanting.

Many marchers were unaware that the police had earlier distributed a synopsis of an injunction that imposed even tighter restrictions on the march than the police permit. The key restriction was that the demonstration could not stop in front of the hotel where LBJ was holding forth.

Since the street in front of the hotel is six lanes wide and divided by a large island and the marchers were restricted to half of the side farthest away from the hotel, no threat was posed to the hotel or the President.

It has become clear that the police didn't expect the march to go past the hotel. They did a series of things that guaranteed the bloody confrontation that occurred.

They refused to permit the organizers of the march to use proper sound equipment to relay instructions to the monitors. Communication between monitors was stymied when their walkie-talkies were jammed.

The police concentrated almost their entire force of over 1,200 "white helmets" at the point where they could best attack the march — at its narrowest point on an overpass in front of the hotel.

The police moved in to narrow by one lane the width of the march when 50-100 people sat down in the street at the front of the march to challenge the injunction. This would have been the time to widen the march to allow those who wanted to go past the hotel to do so. But they were apparently afraid that the demonstrators would overflow into a large parking lot or empty field and hold an impromptu rally — within eyesight of the President if he chose to look up from his dinner.

So the police declared the thousands of people standing in front of the hotel an "unlawful assembly" and proceeded to break it up. Several dozen motorcycle cops charged the marchers, followed by hundreds of club-wielding cops on foot.

Despite frequent stampedes due to mass shock and hysteria, there was considerable resistance to the police attack, especially from the young people, who retreated slowly and reluctantly, hurling invective at the cops. The initial response in some sections of the crowd was to sing "We Shall Overcome," "Silent Night" or "God Bless America," but these soon gave way to shouts of outrage.

Several radio and TV men were clubbed; one had his arm broken by a police club. This, and the blatantly obvious brutality toward the peaceful demonstrators which the newsmen witnessed, led to more objective reporting here than usual. Millions sat in front of their TV sets and saw the police pushing, prodding, and swinging their clubs, bloodying or otherwise injuring men and women.

It reminded this reporter of the TV coverage of the police violence in Selma, Alabama in February, 1965. That police violence was led by Bull Connor.

Bull Connor's Los Angeles counterpart, Chief of Police Tom Reddin, personally directed the police attack and congratulated his men afterwards, referring to it as a "perfect police exercise." He has admitted that this "exercise" was carefully planned for a month.

THE MILITANT

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Monday, July 10, 1967

Los Angeles Police Violence

The brutal police attack upon the massive June 23 antiwar demonstration in Los Angeles represented the same kind of ruling-class violence used against the black ghettos, and which the labor movement has experienced throughout its history. This was the first such major assault upon the movement against the war in Vietnam.

All around the world, especially in Vietnam at the present time, the capitalist rulers of this country use violence to attain their objectives, using their own forces or relying upon local puppets or allies. In the recent period, we have seen temporary successes — from the point of view of the capitalists — of this policy of violence, in Indonesia, Latin America, the Congo, the Middle East. Those who are capable of such violence are also capable of using police attacks against the antiwar movement.

This possibility must be taken into account. The movement should take appropriate measures to defend its democratic rights from police attack and "legal" attack. The whole antiwar movement has a stake in the Los Angeles events. The movement there has begun to fight back against this assault on its rights, and the movement nationally should express its solidarity with its Los Angeles contingent. The facts should become widely known, and the police attack exposed and denounced.

The movement should demonstrate that not only is it not intimidated by such attacks, but on the contrary, will respond by redoubling its efforts. The projected October 21 march on Washington, which, like the Los Angeles march will be directed primarily at Johnson, now assumes added importance. The Los Angeles attack should be answered on that date by a massive outpouring of everyone opposed to the war.

Dangers of 'Anti-Riot' Bill

Nicknamed the "Stop Stokely Bill," the so-called "anti-riot" legislation before Congress is a scarcely veiled attack on the black movement. The backers of the bill readily admit that its intent is to deny free speech to black leaders. The original sponsor of the bill, Rep. Cramer of Florida, told Congress that, "It is time that this Congress got on with the imminent and important business of this session — one being putting these rabble-rousers like Carmichael out of business who use interstate commerce and facilities for such statements as 'to hell with the draft.'"

The bill stipulates that it is a federal crime to cross state lines with intent to "incite, organize, promote or encourage" a riot. It also bars the use of interstate communication facilities, including telephones, to direct or incite riots.

The bill legitimizes the timeworn racist assertion that ghetto rebellions are caused not by the conditions under which black people are forced to live, but by "outside agitators."

Already we have seen similar "anti-riot" bills being used on the state level to deny the rights of black radicals. In Nashville, Stokely Carmichael was framed up for "inciting to riot" in connection with a student rebellion which was clearly provoked by the police. Carmichael's only connection with the event was his appearance as a speaker at public meetings in Nashville before the violence broke out.

Liberals have allied themselves with admitted racists to support the "anti-riot" bill which is expected to get overwhelming approval in the House. The liberals at first attempted to sugar coat the bill by passing some civil rights legislation along with it, but even this was dropped in the wake of the congressional stampede to use the current ghetto rebellions to pass legislation aimed against the black movement.

Meanwhile, violent police repression continues to be used to suppress the black rebellions and no improvement is being made in the conditions under which black people live.

Socialist Directory

BOSTON. Boston Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave., Room 307, Boston, Mass. 02139.

CHICAGO. Socialist Workers Party and bookstore, 302 South Canal St., Room 204, Chicago, Ill. 60606. WE 9-5444.

CLEVELAND. Eugene V. Debs Hall, 2nd floor west, 9801 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44106. Telephone: 791-1669. Militant Forum meets every Sunday night at 7:30.

DENVER. Militant Labor Forum. P.O. Box 2649, Denver, Colo. 80201.

DETROIT. Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward, Detroit, Mich. 48201. Temple 1-6135. Friday Night Socialist Forum held weekly at 8 p.m.

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The Myth of 'Progressive'

By Peter Buch

A few days before the June 5 Israeli attack on the Arab countries, Senator Robert Kennedy called for the "defense" of Israel as an "outpost of democracy and civilization" in the Middle East.

Kennedy's remark reflects the liberal version of a myth that grips many radicals in the U.S., the myth of "progressive" — even "socialist" — Israel. This myth pictures Israel as a land of Kibbutzim or communal farms, with workers' parties dominating the government and steering Israel in a socialist direction.

Partisans of this view must first of all answer the question: If Israel really is moving in a progressive direction, why is its foreign policy so reactionary, and why does its policy in the Middle East meet with such approval from Washington, Chiang Kai-shek, Ky, etc.?

That U.S. imperialism is pleased with the recent Israeli victory was indicated by the following gleeful remarks in the June 19 *Newsweek*: "To Washington, the combination of Israeli muscle and U.S. sweet talk had produced eminently satisfactory results . . . As an indirect beneficiary of the Israeli blitz, the U.S. should at least be in a position to neutralize the Middle East, so that its oil can be profitably marketed and its waterways used for the benefit of world commerce . . ."

The June blitzkrieg is not an isolated instance where the interests of the Israeli regime happened to coincide with those of the imperialists.

In 1956 Israel launched an attack upon Egypt in conjunction with Britain and France. Israel supported the U.S. in the Korean war; supported the fascist Secret Army Organization in Algeria against the Algerian revolution; opposed the independence movements in Morocco, Tunisia and Indonesia; trained counterrevolutionary paratroopers for the Congo's General Mobutu; opposes the admission of China into the UN; endorsed the Eisenhower doctrine and supported the landing of U.S. and British troops in Lebanon and Jordan during the Iraqi revolution of 1958.

Israel has supported King Hussein of Jordan against efforts of the Palestinian refugee movement to overthrow him.

The Israeli regime has refused to condemn the U.S. war in Vietnam, as the Egyptian, Algerian and Syrian regimes have done. Israel has found ways of indicating its support to Johnson's war; for example, Moshe Dayan visited South Vietnam earlier this year, financed by the U.S. Information Agency.

The truth of the matter is that these policies flow from the character of Israel as a capitalist and colonizing society. Israel is plagued with the typical problems of such a society, including class struggles, economic crisis, unemployment, racism and militarism.

The Zionist policy of Jewish colonization at the expense of the native Arab population, has led Israel into an alliance with the imperialist powers, especially the U.S. Instead of seeking integration within an anti-imperialist and socialist Middle East, Israel is an opponent of the Arab revolution. As a small and economically unviable country, cut off from its neighbors, it is dependent upon aid from the imperialist countries in order to survive.

Israel's vaunted prosperity has been an artificial one, propped up by outside aid. Since 1949, it has received \$6 billion in such aid, two-thirds in grants and contributions. Most of this money has come from Jewish fund-raising (mainly in the U.S.), German reparations payments, and U.S. government grants.

The German reparation payments recently came to an end. Jewish immigration has dried up, leading to a slump in the housing industry. Production in Israel is concentrated in light industry and agriculture, requiring importation of machinery, fuel and raw materials. These factors have led to a foreign deficit this year of half a billion dollars, and a huge national debt of over a billion dollars. Israel is in an economic crisis, marked by inflation, unemployment, wage freezes and wage cuts, and a strike wave.

The response of the "workers"

government has been to place the burden of the crisis upon the working class. The situation was described early this year by Ya'akov Chazan, member of the Knesset (Israeli parliament) and a leading spokesman for Mapam, a left-Zionist party:

"The great peril confronting us now is unemployment. The threat of its growth is being used by the employers to strengthen their own position through the threat of further discharges and layoffs, and in this way they seek to break down workers' solidarity and force the workers to acquiesce to lowered standards of living and increased exploitation . . . This situation is more critical than it seems, since unemployment is not uniformly distributed throughout the country, but has hit certain sectors more than others, in particular the development towns and certain Arab communities." ("Development towns" are mainly occupied by Oriental Jews from Yemen, Iraq, Algeria, etc.).

Mapam, the United Workers Party, formally adheres to Marxism and "undogmatic" Leninism. It is opposed to socialist revolution in Israel, however, and fully supports Zionism. It is presently in the government coalition, lending its support to the campaign against the Arab countries.

The Mapai party is social democratic. It is the strongest party, and controls the powerful Histadrut. The Histadrut is the central labor union, but is also the country's largest employer and runs the main health insurance program.

Illusions

The fact that Mapai is the leading government party helps foster the illusion of "socialist" Israel. But the Mapai government no more makes Israel socialist than the Labor party government makes England socialist.

The existence of the kibbutzim and the fact that Histadrut owns or partially owns many enterprises also raise illusions.

The communal farms represent a very small section of the economy, and a still smaller section of the population. Their major function has been as an advance guard of the Zionist state in settling and defending territory. Economically unviable, they are supported and subsidized by Zionist funds. They in no way characterize the economy of Israel as a whole.

The Histadrut's enterprises function not as a part of a socially-owned and planned economy, but within the context of capitalist market relations. They confront their own workers as any other capitalist bosses. Histadrut shares ownership and profits of many major enterprises with private capitalists. Its enterprises serve to aid the development of capitalism in Israel, just as nationalization of certain industries in many capitalist countries serves to stabilize the system.

A series of examples of this were provided by Mapam's general secretary, Meir Ya'ari, at the fourth Mapam congress in 1963, when Mapam was not in the governing coalition. A typical example is described by Ya'ari, concerning T'nuva, a Histadrut wholesale produce marketing agency:

"T'nuva releases agricultural produce before it reaches the consumer, turning the products over to middlemen who increase their price exorbitantly. It is no wonder, therefore, that sometimes the products reach the consumer after having increased prices by over 100 percent."

Concerning Histadrut's role as a "trade union," Ya'ari writes: "It has been a long time since we last heard of Histadrut leading a strike. We have grown accustomed to seeing the Histadrut leadership preventing strikes and applying sanctions against them. But there are strikes or the threats of strikes

to which their ears are more attuned. Towards these strikes of 'our own people' from the higher bureaucracy they use gentler methods of persuasion. The same is true when the strike is led by a rebellious Mapai politician. But when the strikes are organized by production workers, the Mapai leadership knows how to show its fist."

Ya'ari discusses the growth of bureaucracy in Histadrut: "Today, bureaucracy is gnawing away at Solel-Boneh [Histadrut construction firm]. The wage gap between managers and workers is growing. The worker has no voice in the problems of production and management. One party rules

schemes to get rich at the expense of national and public capital. Of course, there has also been private capital from abroad. But it generally wasn't this capital that turned construction foremen into rich building contractors. Nor was it this capital that financed the big importers whose wealth must also be credited, to a large extent, to the generosity and carelessness of the Treasury . . ."

In other words, the state functions as a source of funds and capital for private capitalists.

Ya'ari continues, discussing the extent of capitalist profits: "A Bank of Israel report states that, in 1961, the assets of the banks increased by 406.1 million Israeli



NAPALM VICTIM. Wounded captured Egyptian soldier was burned by napalm in Israeli blitzkrieg. Most Egyptian casualties were caused by the flaming jelly gasoline, which sticks to the skin while it burns. In background are Israeli soldiers.

over everything . . . Workers applying for jobs in these firms have to undergo Mapai party screening . . ."

The nature of Israeli society is clearly revealed by the development of the capitalist class. In 1956 *Time* magazine made this evaluation:

"Under the New Economic Policy laid down in 1952, a conspicuous group of near-millionaires has arisen. A 'Gold Coast' of California-style villas has sprung up north of Tel Aviv where the wives of the new \$50,000-a-year men vie in entertaining ambassadors or ministers at lavish dinner parties . . . half the population is now composed of Oriental Jews . . . Some Europeans complain of being put next door to 'blacks,' and Israel with all its other perplexities now must worry about the color problem."

On the development and enrichment of the Israeli capitalist class, Ya'ari writes:

"A considerable number of our millionaires have demonstrated their private initiative mainly in

pounds, or 26 percent, in the course of one year. During that same year, the profits on their own capital increased by 51.8 percent, while profits from operations and capital together increased by 30.1 percent. These are not normal capitalist profits! . . ."

"In 1958, total returns on (industrial) capital were 1,681 million pounds . . . and net gain reached 25 percent. During that same year all wage-earners together received 1,962 million pounds."

Citing official statistics, Ya'ari points to the fact that the maximum monthly wages of the lower half of the wage earners was 250 pounds, while the average was 140, compared to the minimum official requirement of 450 pounds per month for a family of four.

Discrimination is practiced not only against Arabs, but also against the Oriental Jews. "As we know," Ya'ari points out, "most production workers now belong to the Oriental communities. To be quite frank we are concerned not only with freezing wages but

A Socialist Couple Respond To the Loss of Their Son

The following letter was sent to the national committee of the Socialist Workers Party by Winifred and Paul Chelstrom of Minneapolis. Their son John, a member of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance, died in an auto accident May 13. Mr. and Mrs. Chelstrom are veterans of the Minneapolis labor and socialist movements.

* * *

Dear Comrades:

Our son and comrade, Johnny, is no more. The words are hollow and meaningless because we cannot believe it.

Truth is cold and hard. Yet we are materialists and we must accept it. There is no other way.

To have raised a son to be in every way a comrade — a worker-intellectual who knew and was part of the working-class world all of his life, yet at the same time recognized and felt each and every touch of beauty in our universe and wanted it for all the world — and then to see that life lost just as he was gaining the maturity and judgment to work effectively to change the world — that is the reality we must accept.

Not that our Johnny was perfect — far from it. Nor would we want him to be. He was warm

and human — with all the feelings and failings of a sensitive revolutionist.

From childhood, John was a socialist. That capitalist criterion of success — money — never meant a thing to him. If he had it, he spent it. If not — well, that didn't really matter either.

Although he had worked as a rail for nearly the past five years, John left no material goods — outside of a first-class revolutionary library and a record collection. He didn't even own a suit or a decent pair of shoes. When he had money, he gave it to the party or used it to further his intellectual life. That was what money was for.

With this letter are some worn bills — a twenty, a ten and two ones — a total of \$32, John's entire cash assets at the time of his death, turned over to us by the funeral parlor in Fort Wayne with the other contents of his billfold, which were a few personal and union identification papers. (His car, a total wreck, was not even his; he owed \$1,300 on it!)

We are sending it as Johnny's last donation to the Party Building Fund — to help build a socialist world for future generations. We are sure this is what our Johnny would have wanted.

Comradely,
Winifred and Paul Chelstrom

'ive' Israel Arab Revolution Defense Urged by 4th International

with deepening the ethnic differences in the country. This social exploitation helps hold the Oriental communities, one half of the population, in their present state of economic, social and cultural discrimination . . ."

Ya'ari compares the ethnic discrimination against both Oriental Jews and Arabs in Israel: "The common denominator of the two problems is that the Arab worker must live in a hut or hovel on the outskirts of Jewish towns where he must seek his work, and the worker of the Sephardic [Oriental] community is packed into crowded slums . . ."

"We are witnesses to the desperate struggle being fought by slum dwellers in Tel Aviv whose land was sold from under them at exorbitant prices to a corporation which plans an entertainment center on the site of their homes, costing millions and perhaps tens of millions of pounds. This land is the stage for a devil's dance of land speculation involving astronomical sums."

"Slums have been destroyed with the help of eviction notices. Policemen were recruited to aid the land speculators in order to evict the dwellers into the streets. Almost incredible! Women and children tried, empty-handed, to defend their homes against the policemen and their clubs, against the threat of expulsion."

Although the military administration over the Arab communities and the noxious travel permit system was recently ended by the Eshkol government, the conditions of the Arab population in Israel still evoke comparisons with the black ghettos in this country.

In a collection of essays entitled "Israel and the Arabs," published in June, 1962, by Hashomer Hatzair, the main constituent of Mapam, Yosef Vaschitz points out:

"After the first years of enforced segregation, the barriers to the general labor market were lifted. For annual unskilled and skilled occupations they have been lifted completely. For professionals and white collar workers, however, the gates to jobs outside the Arab sector have been raised only to a very small degree . . ."

"Tens of thousands of Arabs — most of them young people — leave their villages in order to seek employment in the towns. Their hold on the labor market, however, is a tenuous one as they remain mostly in the unskilled and semi-skilled categories. Since they continue to live in the village though they work in the city, they are unorganized for the most part. Their living conditions are very bad, especially when compared with those of the average Jewish worker . . ."

Although Histadrut finally decided in the late '50s to open its membership to Arab workers, Vaschitz points out that "there is no value in formal membership of the Histadrut as long as it is not accompanied by a fundamental change of values in the organization of employment . . . The Arab worker has not penetrated into the large-scale industry of the country, but only to the fringes of manufacture — garages, metal workshops, concrete block and tile manufactures . . ."

The facts related by these left spokesmen for Zionism, give eloquent testimony to the falseness of the picture of "egalitarian," "socialist" Israel.

For Israel to become truly progressive, it will have to break with capitalism, Zionism and imperialism, and seek to aid the Arab revolution in a struggle for a socialist and independent Middle East.

Paris Newspaper Reports Israeli Blitz Atrocities

(World Outlook) — With the announcement by Israeli military authorities in Tel Aviv June 19 that the number of Arab soldiers killed in the Sinai desert was around 20,000 instead of the figure of 7,000 or 8,000 originally announced, the true story began to emerge of some of the horrors of the Israeli blitzkrieg.

In the June 20 issue of the Paris daily *Le Monde*, Eric Rouleau estimates the number of wounded in the hospitals of the United Arab Republic may reach as high as 30,000.

In two hospitals alone, in the suburbs of Cairo, there are some 3,000 wounded. Rouleau visited these two establishments and talked with many of the soldiers under treatment.

Dr. Mansour, the chief of staff, told him: "We received more wounded than we expected. More than 75 percent of them were suffering from napalm burns, to such an extent that I and my colleagues estimate that less than 50 percent will survive."

In one of the modern rooms of the Helmholtz hospital Rouleau saw Lt. Mustapha El Khodari, a doomed man. All the features of his face were burned away. His body was a charred mass. In the neighboring bed, Col. Kamal El Roubi, his body wrapped like a mummy, lay paralyzed from head to foot from napalm. He could barely whisper. On June 6, he said, Israeli Mirage jets pursued his unit as it fled and dumped devastating flames on them.

Lt. Choukry Hanna, writhing with pain, recounted his experience. "I am the only survivor of a company of infantry that was composed of a hundred men. On June 5, the first day of hostili-

ties, an Israeli reconnaissance plane flew over our trenches at Oum Koutaief in the Ogueila area. A little later other planes appeared and showered us with napalm. My comrades burned like torches. Only one of them escaped with me.

"We were going on foot to the Suez when a Bedouin offered to take us on his camel. An Israeli plane spotted us the next morning. He machine-gunned us. The camel was killed, but once again we miraculously escaped death. When we reached the Suez, my comrade died from his burns. As for me, I managed to reach an Egyptian town."

Rouleau reports hearing of many cases in which the Israelis used torture.

"At the Meadi hospital, Corporal Souweilam Abdel Rassoul Gadallah, 22, a member of a tank unit, stated that he had been submitted to torture by members of the Israeli intelligence service. His body riddled with bullets, immobile, with an expression of terror on his face, his voice breaking, he replied in monosyllables to the questions of the journalists. "Captured at Rafah, when he attempted to escape he was taken to an isolated spot behind a dune where a kind of gallows had been set up. He was bound with chains, he said, hung up by the feet and beaten with a rifle butt while the Israeli officers questioned him."

"When he refused to talk, bursts of machine-gun fire were aimed in his direction, the shots striking his feet, his legs, his arm (it had to be amputated later). He was given nothing to eat or drink for 62 hours. Not far from him a canvas bag leaked water drop by drop . . ."

[The following is from a statement issued June 12 by the United Secretariat of the Fourth International, the world party of socialist revolution founded by Leon Trotsky in 1938.]

For the third time in less than 20 years, the Middle East has been convulsed by war. The cease-fire imposed by the United Nations, sanctioning the conquests Israel gained by aggression, is only another extremely fragile truce. The diplomatic negotiations and political confrontations now opening can be cut off by a fresh outbreak of armed conflict.

The imbroglio in the Middle East was created by imperialism and it has been the only one to benefit from it. In the first world war, British imperialism made contradictory promises to the Arabs and to the Jews. During the second world war, the "democratic" imperialist powers did nothing to prevent or stop Hitler's genocidal actions toward the Jews. Following the war, the survivors of the Nazi camps were barred from the rich countries by immigration quotas and diverted to Palestine where they installed themselves by force in a poverty-stricken area and at the expense of the Arab masses, who were stripped and left in despair.

Reactionary Role

The State of Israel, inspired by Zionism, has since then played a reactionary role in the Middle East in the service of imperialism and against the freedom movement of the Arab masses.

This role was concretized in particular in the 1956 crisis when Israel, taking advantage of an international conjuncture which appeared to favor its designs, unleashed — in alliance with French and British imperialism — an attack against Egypt which was "guilty" of having nationalized the Suez Canal a few months previously.

Eleven years later, once again estimating that conditions were favorable, Israel opened a new offensive and, still in agreement with imperialism, organized provocations against Syria, which they wished to strike at due to the progressive policies adopted by the Syrian government.

Egypt's inevitable reply to the threats against her ally, along with the attitude adopted by other Arab countries, became the pretext to unleash an international campaign against the revolutionary Arab nationalist movement, a shrewdly conducted campaign in which the participation of reactionaries throughout the world stood out, including former fascists in certain countries guilty of the most atrocious crimes against the Jews.

Defend Arab Revolution

In the conflict which the Zionists provoked and which is far from having been concluded, even if military operations have been halted, the Fourth International holds that it is the duty of the international workers movement to reject in the most emphatic way any equivocal or eclectic position.

We do not underestimate the complexity of the problems involved, particularly the problem of the fate of the Jewish masses settled in this area of the world, who are not at all responsible for the crimes of imperialism and the Zionist state. But while all these problems must be carefully examined in working out solutions, in the opening phase of the struggle and its pursuit, the revolutionary movement is resolutely on the side of the Arab countries and their anti-imperialist revolution, against the State of Israel.

If there were any need of con-



IN 1956. Destruction in Port Said, United Arab Republic, after combined French, British and Israeli invasion of UAR.

firming the character of this state and its policies, it was provided beyond any possibility of doubt by the enthusiasm with which the spokesmen of imperialism throughout the world hailed Dayan's military success and by the spirit of revenge whipped up in recent weeks against the Arabs and other peoples engaged in carrying out the colonial revolution. Israel is the keystone in the imperialist system in the Middle East and represents a major obstacle to the victory of the Arab revolution.

On the military plane, Egypt and the other Arab countries have unquestionably suffered a very severe defeat, the immediate and longer range causes of which must be probed to the bottom in the interests of the future development of the revolution in the Middle East.

But Dayan's victory is far from being able to assure a stable solution. The State of Israel itself, despite its momentary expansion, has achieved no guarantees whatever for the future. On the political plane it must meet onerous confrontations even in the immediate future.

In addition, the balance sheet of the entire operation does not add up to a plus for the imperialists although they obviously made gains. In the field of political combat now opening, Egypt and the other Arab countries have sharp weapons available in reality such as control of the Suez Canal and the oil of the whole region.

But it is particularly the mounting hate of the Arab peoples, who have once again seen where their true enemy is, that visibly reduces the margin of maneuver for the imperialist powers, and makes their presence in the Middle East more and more precarious and increasingly challenged.

This holds all the more in view of the fact that the military defeat did not involve either a demobilization or demoralization of the revolutionary Arab nationalist movement which is undergoing fresh radicalization in a series of countries. The most palpable demonstration of this was the mass movement touched off by the resignation of Nasser, who quickly resumed power under the pressure of a popular mobilization

without precedent in the Egyptian revolution.

The events in the Middle East will likewise have grave consequences for the bureaucratic leadership of the Soviet Union which proved incapable of providing real help for its allies and even went so far as to join with the representatives of the United States in drawing up the June 7 UN resolution sanctioning Israel's military success.

Under the pressure of certain peoples' democracies that wondered what their own possible fate might be in view of the passive attitude of the USSR in Vietnam and then in the Middle East, a Moscow summit meeting was called. This gave the impression of a firmer attitude, but under the test of events the threats contained in the resolution adopted at that gathering proved to be limited essentially to the field of propaganda and diplomatic maneuvers.

The task of the revolutionary Arab organizations is to seek, in agreement with the Israeli vanguard circles who reject Zionism, a valid solution to the question of Israel, a solution that in any case involves an end to Zionist colonization, the expulsion of imperialism from this part of the world, and the establishment — through the collaboration of the Arab and Israeli masses — of political structures that would permit taking the road to the construction of socialism.

The revolutionary Arab vanguard must undertake to analyze the reasons for the military defeat and to draw all the necessary political lessons in order to facilitate mobilizing the masses in the struggles under preparation, eliminating false allies of the Hussein type, and setting socialism as the perspective.

The task of the international workers movement is to form a block with the Arab peoples in their revolutionary struggle against the State of Israel and its imperialist masters in this difficult stage of their fight for freedom. It is the duty of the workers states to express their solidarity through concrete actions and not by empty phrases having no other objective but to cover up an attitude of genuine capitulation.

A SOLID ACHIEVEMENT

Lockwood on Castro and Cuba

CASTRO'S CUBA, CUBA'S FIDEL, by Lee Lockwood. Macmillan and Company, N.Y. Illustrated. 288 pp. \$9.95.

Like many of today's books, this one is expensive. But relative to what you usually get, it's worth scraping up the money for.

It is indicative of the changing political climate in the U.S., perhaps, that a major house like Macmillan felt free to publish a serious, honest work about Cuba. And, they've done a technical job worthy of the skilled photography and objective reporting characteristic of Lee Lockwood at his best.

The book's principal feature is a probing, seven-day interview with Castro. About one-third of the interview was chopped out and published in the January *Playboy* magazine along with stupid and tendentious interjections by *Playboy's* editor — interjections that some unwary readers thought were Lockwood's.

The one frustrating thing about the book is that the interview took place 22 months ago, just prior to a new period of significant political developments in Cuba. Since the interview, the Cuban leaders have declared their virtual independence politically from both Moscow and Peking. They have sharpened their revolutionary line abroad and stepped up the struggle against bureaucracy at home. Despite the time lag, however, the book is of high political value.

Lockwood is familiar with Cuba. He was an early partisan of the Cuban revolution, although he regards himself as anti-Marxist. He believes that socialist revolutions diminish individual freedom, but he is hopeful that perhaps Cuba will escape this fate.

Was in Cuba

Lockwood happened to be in Cuba on Jan. 1, 1959 and reported Castro's triumphal march to Havana. He made additional trips there for major U.S. publications in 1959 and 1960. Then, after four years, he returned in 1964. That visit prompted him to return in the spring of 1965 to gather material for this book.

Lockwood describes his reaction after a four-year absence:

"Almost immediately I was amazed at the apparent discrepancies which existed between what was popularly being said and believed about Cuba in the United States and what I actually saw. There had been considerable changes of course. Yet, after three weeks of traveling, including a seven-day, cross-country taken in Castro's company, I could find little evidence of the standard image of Cuba so luridly painted by American newspapers and magazines — that of a crumbling economy, a populace in tatters and near starvation, and a political regime that had lost its popular support and was maintaining itself in power through oppression and terror. Instead, I found that, in spite of rationing, people were well-clothed and adequately fed, nearly everyone was working and had money, and — contrary to all pronouncements by our State Department — Castro still enjoyed the support, even the affection, of the great majority of Cubans."

Lockwood spent 14 weeks in Cuba in 1965 before Fidel sat down in front of a tape recorder to a scheduled one-day interview that stretched into seven days. During those 14 weeks, Lockwood gathered much valuable information.

There are absorbing odd bits of political information strewn through the pages. At one point Lockwood asks Fidel about the charge that he was really a Communist when he took up the struggle against Batista. Fidel tells him neither he nor Che had been Communists.

Lockwood asks: "Nor your bro-

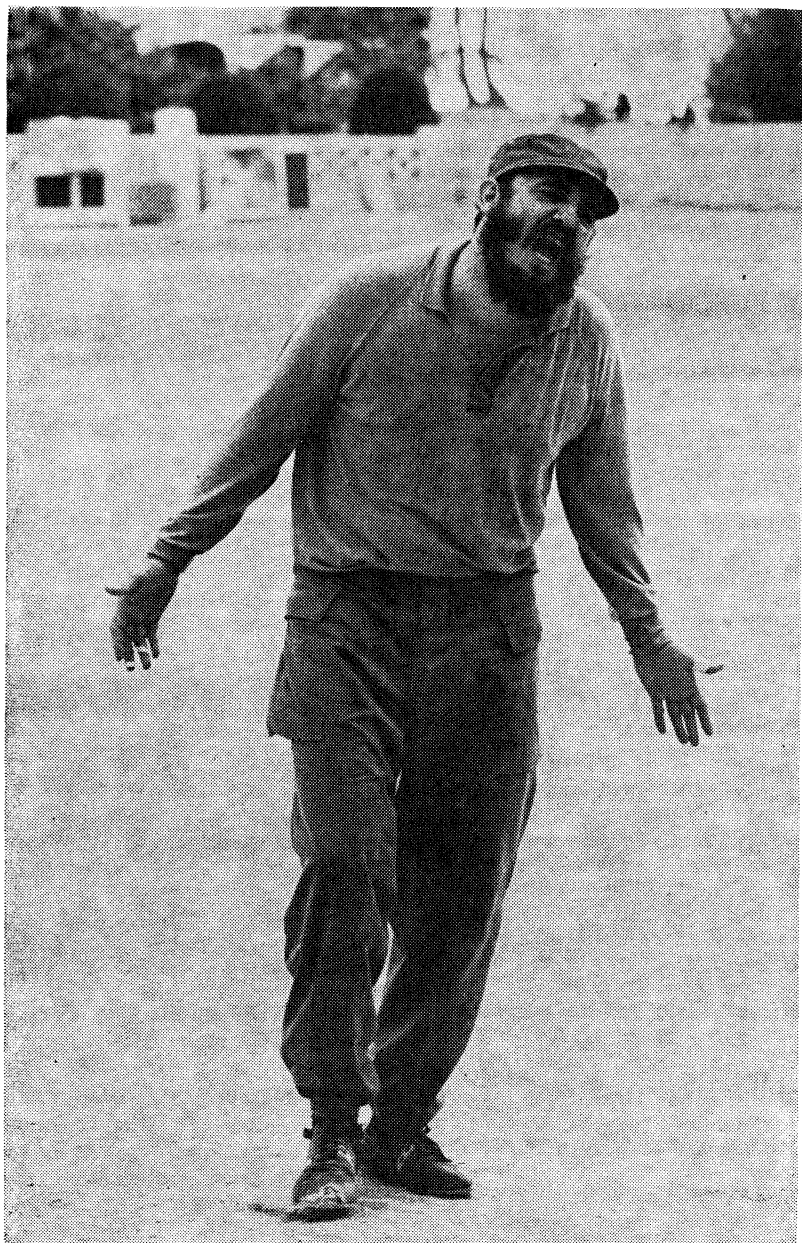


Photo by Lee Lockwood

TAKES UMBRAGE. Fidel Castro, on pitcher's mound, registers anguished dissent at umpire's ruling.

ther Raúl?"

Castro replies: "Raúl, yes. Raúl, completely on his own, while as a student at the university, had joined the Communist Youth. But it should be said that when he went to the Moncada attack he was not behaving in a particularly disciplined way, properly speaking."

Lockwood: "You mean he broke party discipline?"

Fidel: "Exactly."

Lockwood offers testimony on the state of the arts in Cuba: "Under the loosely administered patronage of the Revolution, the arts have flourished in Cuba and remained refreshingly free of the ideological influence or restraint common in other socialist cultures . . ."

His description of the rehabilitation program for political prisoners is one of the most fascinating chapters in the book. Only those who specifically request it are enlisted in the program. They are given useful work and, where warranted, special training. They go to school three hours a day for a combination of regular courses based on previous education and courses in politics. These are described by Lockwood as "indoctrination." But, "It is not brainwashing."

Once every 45 days, each prisoner in the program is given a pass to visit his family for three days, plus necessary travel time. The trips are on the honor system, with the prisoner given money for fare and meals.

On the basis of what he saw first-hand, Lockwood accepts Fidel's statement that thus far not a single prisoner has failed to return from home on time.

The interview with Fidel is wide-ranging. It covers Cuba's domestic policies, progress and problems; Fidel's political evolution, his view of the world in general and of the U.S. in particular.

For this writer, Fidel's views about the political perspectives for the U.S. have been of particular interest. I have argued against his assertions in the interview, as presented in the *Playboy* excerpts (see *Militant*, Jan. 2, 1967), that there is little prospect for a revolutionary development in the U.S.

In the full text this is stated less categorically. Also, Fidel concedes further on that his dim view of prospects in the U.S. "perhaps is due to our great pessimism about whether the American people have much opportunity to express their own opinions, or to change a situation . . . we have no faith in the government of the United States and that could also have led us to a certain degree of underestimation of the people of the United States."

It was, of course, two years ago that Fidel expressed this view of the U.S. Since then he has seen the development of a vigorous antiwar movement from California to Maine. Its significance has not escaped him. Following the giant April 15 demonstration against the Vietnam war, he declared in a speech that the demonstration showed that the world revolutionary forces now had a worthy ally right in the U.S., one that would sooner or later develop into a powerful revolutionary force.

Cuba made a deep positive impression on Lockwood. He concludes:

"There is in Cuba today much of the same spirit of excitement, of a sense of purpose, of a moral momentum, of a people making their own destiny, that charged the air when Castro's revolution swept into power seven years ago. The fact that this spirit, this *élan vital*, has been preserved through all the years of difficulties is one of the surest signs of the revolution's health."

—Harry Ring

The Black Struggle

Legislator Reports Reactions of Black GIs

After spending two months talking with black GIs in Vietnam, Karl Purnell, former Pennsylvania state legislator, has concluded that "a new breed of impatient young men is going home, ready to provide shock troops for the civil rights movement." In an article in the July 3 *Nation* Purnell says that, "having been taught that it is possible to fight and even die for the cause of freedom, these veterans are coming home determined to receive fair and equal treatment."

Purnell claims that "despite the lack of meaningful integration in the armed forces, most Negroes agree that they get better treatment in the military service than at home."

Purnell is critical of the many articles appearing in the press which claim that black GIs are critical of civil rights leaders who oppose the war. He says that "dissidents like Stokely Carmichael and Cassius Clay, who take such a verbal beating before the television cameras, are seen as heroes for their courage in fighting the white establishment."

* * *

On June 24 about 200 people picketed a recruiting station in New York protesting the court decision against Muhammad Ali. They received a good response from passers-by and a number of people joined the line. The demonstration was sponsored by the Student Mobilization Committee.

* * *

Bill Russell, basketball star and coach of the Boston Celtics, said recently that he envied Muhammad Ali for his "absolute and sincere faith." He said that he did not think Ali has been treated fairly or justly.

* * *

Over 3,500 people turned out for the national CORE convention in Oakland, Calif. June 30-July 5. Among the topics discussed were: black leadership, building CORE chapters, black consumer power, a black self-image, cultural ties with Africa, opposition to the Vietnam war, an educational program, and pressure for better enforcement of federal laws.

In his opening speech Floyd McKissick, national director of CORE, blasted the "Anti-Riot Bill" before Congress. He said, "Let's get one thing straight on this word 'riot.' What's happening in our cities are not riots, these are rebellions. These are black people saying, 'Get off my back!'"

* * *

At the CORE convention Dick Gregory announced his intention to run for president and countered the charge that if he were elected he would favor blacks and dis-



"Come on in — this is an integrated neighborhood." — Engelhardt in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*.

criminate against whites. "That's nonsense," he said, "I'd be completely fair. In fact I'm thinking of having a white on my cabinet."

* * *

Last spring a poverty agency in Buffalo mailed out 45,000 job inquiries to 13,000 employers. They got back offers of only 159 jobs. Now, after the Buffalo rebellion, the city is coming up with a token 600 summer jobs and a promise to find 3,000 additional jobs in industry. Bethlehem Steel which didn't have any job openings for blacks last year has suddenly discovered 100 job openings.

* * *

A supervisor at Atlanta's Fulton County jail has been suspended for tear-gassing eight young prisoners in a storage room. He was attempting to get them to confess to stealing jewelry from another prisoner.

* * *

A majority of the 800 employees of Columbia University at Harlem Hospital have signed up with Local 1199 Drug and Hospital Employees Union. Harlem Hospital, a municipal hospital, is operated by Columbia University on a contract basis.

The union has given Columbia until July 6 to hold an employee election to establish Local 1199 as their bargaining agent.

* * *

A recent survey by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce shows that the number of black families living in substandard housing dropped from 2.8 million in 1950 to 2.3 million in 1960 — a decrease of about 20 percent. But the number of white families in such housing was cut almost in half — from 12 million to 6.1 million. The gap between blacks and whites had widened.

* * *

On June 20 two black women were elected to the Jacksonville City Council. They are the first Afro-Americans to serve since 1907 on the council, and the first women in history.

* * *

In a brief remark to a reporter, Dan Kimball, chairman of the Aerojet General Corporation which has just set up a factory in Watts, candidly summed up how big business benefits from the high unemployment of black people. Said Kimball, "Last year we put in plants down South to get a better labor rate. Then we thought why not try the surplus labor market at home."

If any of the 203 employees in the Watts factory aren't satisfied with job conditions and pay, the company can always fall back on one of the 2,200 persons it says are on the waiting list to get jobs there.

—Elizabeth Barnes



Floyd McKissick

Letters From Our Readers

[This column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of general interest to our readers. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Writers' initials will be used, names being withheld unless authorization is given for use.]

IRA Man Victimized

New York, N.Y.
On May 5, Joe Dillon, 22, a friend of mine and a member of the IRA (Ireland's national liberation army), was sentenced to five years in prison falsely charged with an attempted armed robbery of a Dublin rent collection office in December, 1965.

The police didn't arrest Joe until six months after the incident. Then, on the night of June 6, 1966, he was taken from his home by Special Branch Detectives (who specialize in political cases), taken to Bridewell prison and put on an identification parade with two other IRA men. Witnesses were produced — the rent collector, the owner of a car taken on the night before the crime and a few local people who were in the rent office at the time. None of the witnesses identified any of those on parade.

Before his arrest Joe stated that he had been offered bribes by the Special Branch to inform on the IRA and that when he refused he was told that the Special Branch would "get him."

A year later he has been brought to trial and charged with taking a car without the owner's consent. The only evidence was a thumbprint found on the driving mirror of the getaway car which, according to a state witness, bore 14 points of resemblance to Dillon's print. (Scotland Yard normally demands 21 points of resemblance before they will make positive identification.) He was also charged with illegal possession of a revolver with intent to rob and endanger life. (It is not unusual for an IRA man to possess an "illegal" weapon.)

The sentence was passed by Mr. "Justice" Ó Caoimh, an in-law of de Valera, who admitted that he was "probably in error when I impose a sentence of five years," and was "leaving myself open to criticism."

Anyone wishing to protest this injustice should write Mr. Brian Lenihan, Department of Justice

(sic), Merrion St., Dublin 3 and come join the protest demonstration that will be held in front of the Irish Consulate (on 50th St. near 5th Ave.) from 3 to 7 p.m., Monday, July 17. Thank you.

Brian Scanlon

P.S. We will also be protesting the recent arrest of Marcus Fogarty, IRA election candidate, who was attacked by police while distributing the Easter Lily (symbolic of the fight for freedom), Easter Sunday. He was charged with assaulting a police officer and given a month in prison — enough to keep him out of the election campaign.

B.S.

Meaning of Pop Art

New York, N.Y.
In an otherwise good article on Expo 67 in the June 26 *Militant*, Doug Jenness made what I consider an incorrect comparison between the "socialist realism" of current Soviet art and art forms in America today. Jenness says, "The art exhibit (in the U.S. pavilion) was no better than that in the Russian pavilion. It consisted mostly of crude pop-art — one painting, for example, was simply the letters 'USA' in red, white and blue."

Although Jenness may have been simply giving his personal opinion of pop art, I think his attitude was wrong. Pop art is, in many cases, a way of pointing out the crudity or low level of our society. It hits at the imposed conformity and repressive atmosphere that prevails in our country. It exposes the low level of a society that strives for "things" — shiny cars, shiny homes, shiny women.

That is why paintings like those by Robert Indiana are a form of protest. It is hard to avoid the fact that a painting that simply says EAT in seven-foot letters is a comment on American society. That is also why a painting, such as those done by Andy Warhol, in which Hollywood sex symbols are repeated over and over again in garish colors is also a comment on a society that points to scantily clad, supposedly mindless women as the Ideal Woman.

And, in the painting that Jenness mentions, the "my country right or wrong" patriotism of some Americans is made fun of by simply blowing up the letters USA and painting them in patriotic colors. And, some artists that do semi-pop paintings have done other, more "political" paintings that show their real feelings.

For example, Larry Rivers, who does some pop-ish work, did a beautiful job on a huge painting construction depicting the Russian Revolution, a painting done after reading Isaac Deutscher's trilogy on the life of Leon Trotsky. So, in both ways, in one that would be accepted as "good art" by Jenness, and one that might be written off as "crude pop," the artist was expressing his views on society. That is all — and sometimes even that is too much — that can be asked of an artist.

Socialist realism, on the other hand, is dictated by the need to glorify and please the bureaucracy. Other art forms are suppressed or sneered at. Artists must be free to create as they want. Only then will we, hopefully, get "better" art and relegate "pop" to the art history books.

Melissa Singler

Disagrees on Israel

Los Angeles, Calif.
As an old friend of the YSA, and of Les Evans, I was greatly disturbed by his article in the June 19 *Militant*, concerning Arab victims of "Zionist Politics." From the beginning to the end of the article, Evans blatantly displays his anti-Zionist prejudice as well as his shallow understanding of the situation.

For example, Evans states that

"... official Zionist propaganda claims that the Palestine Arabs fled at the outbreak of the 1948 war in response to appeals broadcast by the Arab League... This argument was invented after the war was over..." However, Evans neglects to state that on dozens of occasions, the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem broadcast appeals to Palestinian Arabs to commit sabotage in Jewish communities, and to leave Palestine. He promised those Arabs that did leave that they would have their property returned to them when the Arab forces succeed in driving Israel into the sea.

Presumably, these Palestinian Arabs are still awaiting that day, living in the wretchedness of the refugee camps. And let us not forget that Jordan, Syria and Egypt have consistently refused to resettle those Arab refugees, forcing them to continue to live in those dreadful conditions. Israel's hands are certainly not clean, but neither are the hands of the Arabs nations.

I certainly do not condone what Israel has done recently, nor do

Thought for the Week

"Those poor, poor bastards." — Specialist 4 Salvatore Grigola, a helicopter door gunner, watching a newly arrived group of GIs in Vietnam.

I support Israel's policies towards Arabs living within her borders. It was Kropotkin who pointed out that nationalism is usually progressive, but that it generally becomes reactionary as soon as it achieves power. I feel that the Zionist experience has borne this out. However, I recall vividly an attack Les Evans delivered on the U.S. for its imperialistic blockade of Cuba. Egypt has been blockading Israel for many years, by refusing their ships passage through the Suez Canal. Most recently, Egypt has extended her imperialism by blockading the Gulf of Aqaba. I wonder why Evans can find time to (rightfully) condemn the U.S. for its imperialistic blockade of Cuba, and to attack Israel for its invasions of Arab territories; but finds it unnecessary to mention Egypt's blockade of

Israel, or Arab terrorist infiltration of Israel. Such an unbalanced and non-objective view is unworthy of a true revolutionary.

Stan Kohls

[We welcome other readers' view on this. EDITOR]

Aid for Vietnam

Midlothian, Maryland
I am renewing my subscription. I wanted to send it sooner but I just didn't have the money.

I thought it was a wonderful thing that the Quakers sent medical supplies to the people of North Vietnam and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam. I would like to thank them and hope they will let me know if they send more, as I would like to help, even though I can only give a couple of dollars.

William Cecil

It Was Reported in the Press

Cheaper Than the Pill — "BOMBAY (AP) — In an effort to promote India's family planning program, the Maharashtra state government has announced it will deny loans and relief subsidies to families with more than three children."

A Very Good Question — The June 12 issue of *Advertising Age* was in a bit of a tizzy over the FCC ruling that stations must make some free time available for the antismoking viewpoint. The publication approvingly quotes one station manager who enquires: "And what about public service announcements themselves? If we run a spot announcement for army recruiting, do we have to run a spot announcement for people who are against the war in Vietnam?"

Another Friend — That well-known partisan of social progress, Richard Nixon, says the Israelis should keep a firm grip on the territories they conquered until the Arab states come to terms.

Moral Issue? — We may be taking too straight-laced a view of the matter, but we can't work up much sympathy for National Student Association efforts to balk CIA moves to evict it from its rent-free Washington offices. After all, when people stop sleeping together they generally tend to go their separate ways.

Kicky — "Tiger" Morse, self-declared queen of New York pop fashion, is offering paper dresses, miniskirts, other fashion items and "fun sadist regalia" such as chains and whips at her boutique. An additional feature is a dressing room with trick mirrors facing the sidewalk. People on the street will be looking at a mirror while customers will be looking out a window. This is designed, she explains, to give customers "the kicky feeling of dressing in the street."

The Bright Side — According to the U.S. Public Health Service there is but one dentist for every 2,000 Americans and the ratio is growing worse. Half of American children under 15 have never been to a dentist. We were brooding over this the other day but were then greatly cheered to learn that the toothbrush holders in the guest bathrooms in the home of Baron Guy de Rothschild were designed in hand-painted porcelain by Christian Dior.

Double Feature — The Rolls

Royce company announced that only 80 of its Custom Coupés will be available in the U.S. An advertisement explains that the car will cost \$31,800 but is worth every penny of it. We carefully scrutinized the list of special features which assertedly make it worth that amount and were thoroughly unconvinced until we came to item 11. Then, we must admit, we were sold. The Custom Coupé "has an upper and lower ventilating system. You can warm your feet and cool your face at the same time." Sounds like the very thing for a hangover.

Getting Show On Road — If all goes well, multimillionaire showman Billy Rose, who died Feb. 10, 1966, may be buried next fall. Burial has been delayed by a dispute between Rose's relatives and executors of his estate as to the amount that should be spent on burying him. According to a reported agreement, the pint-sized showman will be interred in a giant mausoleum situated on a plot the size of 80 average graves. The mausoleum, land and future maintenance will cost \$124,000. There was no report on the extent of interim storage charges.

Tax Dep't (I) — Gen. de Gaulle vetoed a proposal to use medical tax funds for contraceptives on grounds that the contraceptives

are used for recreational, not health purposes.

Tax Dep't (II) — A University of Indiana professor proposed to cope with the so-called population explosion by giving couples a tax rebate each year they don't have babies.

Tax Dep't (III) — An Erie, Pa., tax consultant drew 30 days for declaring nonexistent children as dependents on his tax return.

Tax Dep't. (IV) — A 102-year-old Canadian railroad worker proposed that all people over a hundred be exempted from paying all taxes. (The Indiana prof. might agree with that if he included the proviso that they not have any more kids.)

Martooni, Anyone? — We don't know if he had a green tunic and a bow and arrow, but someone drove off from a New Jersey truck terminal with a trailer containing 1,125 cases of vodka valued at \$45,000.

They Damn Well Better — Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Nugent said that although they had named their son Patrick Lyndon Nugent, they would call him Lyn, short for Lyndon.

—Harry Ring

Weekly Calendar

The rate for advertising in this column is 40 cents a line. Display ads are \$2 a column inch. There is a ten percent discount for regular advertisers. Advertising must reach us by the Monday prior to the date of publication.

LOS ANGELES
ANTIWAR POLITICS IN THE 1968 ELECTIONS — Two Views. Speakers: Mike Marcus, for New Politics; and Allen Taplin, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., July 14, 8 p.m. 1702 E. 4th St. Ausp. Militant Labor Forum.

NEW YORK
THE VIETNAM WAR — As Three GIs Saw It. Speakers: Jan Crumb, Stephen Green and Mark Donnelly, members of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War Committee. Fri., July 14, 8:30 p.m. 873 Broadway at 18th St. Contrib. \$1. Ausp. Militant Labor Forum.

GUERRILLA WARFARE IN BOLIVIA. Speaker: Hedda Garza, editor, U.S. Latin American Justice Committee Reporter. Fri., July 21, 8:30 p.m. 873 Broadway at 18th St. Contrib. \$1. Ausp. Militant Labor Forum.

H. RAP BROWN, Newly Elected Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee will make his first public appearance in New York at a Teach-In on Puerto Rico. Other speakers include Juan Angel Silen, Stanley Aro-nowitz and Tom Hayden. Thurs., July 13, 7:30 p.m. Broadway at 120 St. Horace Mann Auditorium. Ausp. Tricontinental Information Center.

FOR NEW READERS

If you are a new reader and would like to get better acquainted, you may obtain a special four-month introductory subscription by sending this blank and \$1 to

THE MILITANT

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Photo by Syd Stapleton

BRINGING VIETNAM TO EXPO. Over 2,000 Canadians marched in Montreal on July 1, the 100th anniversary of the Canadian confederation. The central demands were: "End Canadian Complicity"; "Withdraw U.S. Troops" and "Self Determination for All Oppressed Peoples." Quebec nationalists actively supported the demonstration. French and English Canadian speakers were joined by representative of U.S. Student Mobilization Committee.

Akron Rubber Workers Tell Facts Behind Their Strike

By Barbara Gregorich

CLEVELAND, June 24 — Over 53,000 striking rubber workers across the country are now in their third month of picketing Firestone, Uniroyal, Goodrich and General Tire companies. In an interview with about 30 men at three of the companies in Akron, I found the morale of the strikers still high. They said they were "in too deep now to settle for less than we want."

Some of the reasons for the failure of negotiations, according to the strikers, was that the companies want a three-year contract while the workers want a one or two-year contract; and the companies are offering wage increases of a few cents while the workers want a substantial increase of \$2 or more.

When asked what they thought about the United Rubber Workers not striking Goodyear Rubber, the strikers replied that Goodyear, which employs over 21,000 men, should be struck. But if it were, they are sure the government would invoke the Taft-Hartley law against them. One man said, "A union means unity, and we should all strike together."

Some of the workers' demands, as described by the strikers, are:

- 1) A guaranteed annual wage. They said this would benefit the younger workers in the plant, who often get laid off two or three times a year. The strikers said the companies lay off these younger men before they are able to collect unemployment compensation. "We are fighting for the younger

generation," said one worker. They are asking for about 93 percent of their full wages when laid off — they now receive 65 percent.

- 2) Better working conditions. The workers at Firestone said that their working conditions were terrible and that the company violated the contract every day in refusing to improve them. The men said they were on piece-work and speed-up.

One striker said he was working on the same machine he had in 1945, but then he had to produce five-and-one-half tires a day, while today he has to put out 13 tires a day.

Other complaints at Firestone were that the windows were broken; that the company should buy equipment for the workers; that the number of time-study men has tripled in the last three years; and that the workers have to race against time to make a day's wages.

Several strikers said the company was sending out speakers to make plant conditions appear good in the eyes of the public, while in reality, "people are falling all over their machines, there's so much work to do. It's worse in there than you think."

- 3) Abolition of the age requirements in the pension plan. One worker said he was 56 years old and had been working at Goodrich for 39 years. "I want to get out and enjoy life," he said. "I don't want to stay here until I die." The men said retirement should come after 30 years of service, no matter what the age of the worker.

- 4) Paid vacations. Vacation pay is now two percent of a worker's yearly gross earnings. They are asking for vacation pay of four percent so they can "go somewhere during the vacation."

Another major issue involved in the strike is that the companies are starting plants in places like Tennessee, paying lower wages there, and laying off thousands of men in Akron.

During the strike, the companies have been using Akron University students as scabs, often working them 12 hours a day, accord-

ing to the men picketing the plants.

A major gripe of the strikers is that the union leadership is compromising too much and failing to inform the strikers of what was going on in the negotiations. The workers felt there should be regular meetings at which progress was reported.

When asked what they thought about the increased number of strikes in the country, the workers replied it was the fault of the companies. One man said, "You never saw so much trouble in your life as in the United States today. The companies are treating the workers like machines — speedup, profit. The companies have gone crazy — they publicize how many millions of dollars they make in profits each year, but the workers are the ones making all that money and getting nothing."



AGAINST FBI THREATS. New York branch of Movement for Independence of Puerto Rico (MPI) demonstrated on July 4 at FBI headquarters in New York. FBI head J. Edgar Hoover recently charged that MPI was planning a "wave of terror" in Puerto Rico. MPI denounced this redbaiting and any attempt to suppress rights of independence movement. Demonstrations were also staged by MPI in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on July 4, demanding independence.

Phila. Police Invade Ghetto

By Joel Aber

PHILADELPHIA, June 20 — For two successive weekends, the police force here has invaded the ghetto of South Philadelphia, following the pattern of "pacification" and intimidation already established in Houston, Tampa, Cincinnati, Dayton and Boston. This time Philadelphia's finest are making no pretense about quelling a ghetto uprising; instead they are initiating preemptive warfare to "prevent riots."

On Friday evening, June 8, one man threw a beer bottle at a cop, and police chief Frank Rizzo responded immediately by sending 500 police with riot helmets into the area, stationing police "stake-out teams" on the rooftops, readying police helicopters for action, and cordoning off several square blocks along South Street. Acting with lightning speed, cops arrested 36 black people who were out of doors on the sweltering night.

Incident

The supposedly perilous situation which prompted Rizzo to call a full mobilization of the police force resulted after a small group of local residents picketed a hardware store where there had been an argument with the proprietor earlier in the day. Police Inspector Harry Fox was escorting the store's owner out when he was hit in the face by a beer bottle at 4:30 p.m. Rizzo then called the 500 cops to overtime work. The man who admitted throwing the bottle was charged with assault with intent to kill, resisting arrest, disturbing the peace and inciting to riot.

For several hours, over-zealous cops stayed in the area and made 35 additional arrests, including three members of the Young Militants, who were bailed out several days later by members of the antiwar movement. Rizzo said that some of those arrested were "outside agitators": one man from New York was visiting friends in South Philadelphia. The Young Militants live in other sections of Philadelphia's black ghetto, and were on South Street to offer help to residents.

Mayor James Tate appointed

Rizzo commissioner only one month ago. Since his appointment, according to one police officer, "Police morale has never been higher in the sixteen years I've been on the force."

Rizzo rose to fame in the late 1950s, when he made frequent raids on coffee houses, arresting all young people under 17 who were out after 10:30 p.m. in violation of Philadelphia's curfew law. Then only a captain, Rizzo carried two silver pistols, one on each hip.

He quickly rose through the ranks and was promoted to the position of deputy commissioner after again making the news when he clubbed Negro demonstrators during the picketing of all-white Girard College in 1964 and 1965.

Previously, Philadelphia played the usual game of having "hard cops" and "soft cops," with a "soft cop" as commissioner to present a good public image. The appointment of Rizzo, the man who has reigned supreme among "hard cops" in recent years, indicates a new toughness, especially in dealing with the ghetto, and a green light to each individual police officer that he can be as vicious as he desires with impunity.

The day Rizzo was appointed, the Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* quoted him: "Whenever I hear the words 'long, hot summer' or 'demonstration' it makes me so mad my blood boils."

Dodd and Powell, A Good Example of Double Standards

On June 23, after literally months of stalling and debate, the Senate voted to censure Thomas J. Dodd for using campaign and testimonial funds "for his personal benefit." Dodd had put over \$116,000 in his pocket from various Democratic Party dinners and fund-raising events.

In four out of the seven specified dinners, Dodd's good friend Lyndon B. Johnson was the featured speaker.

No Penalties

The censure motion does not carry any penalties. Dodd will not lose his seniority, his chairmanship of the subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency (!) or his vice chairmanship of the subcommittee on Internal Security.

Adam Clayton Powell, who lost all seniority, lost his committee chairmanship, was kicked out of the House and not allowed to return after being constitutionally re-elected in Harlem, was charged with using about \$46,000 in federal funds to pay his wife's salary as an "absentee office aide."

Upon hearing of Dodd's censure, Powell declared that he would be willing to accept the same treatment. House Republican leader Gerald Ford responded, "I don't think the House should make any deals with Powell."

The racist double standard of justice cooked up in the halls of Congress was further underlined by the fact that the senators could not find it in their hearts to censure Dodd on a second count brought against him by one of their own committees. By this charge, Dodd had double-billed various sources for travel expenses.

Dodd was exonerated on the second count by a vote of 51-45.

U.S. Casualties

American casualties in Vietnam for the week ending June 24 were 274 dead, 1,258 wounded, U.S. military authorities reported in Saigon. In the previous week the number of deaths was 143 and the number of wounded was 953. The total as of June 24 was 11,323 dead, 68,341 wounded and 674 missing.